

Claims:-

1. An operating control system for a mobile communications device, said device capable of receiving and transmitting data in the form of calls or messages characterised in that said device is provided with means for receiving a signal emitted from a location (2) when said device is within an area throughout which the signal is generated, processing said signal and altering the operating condition of the device in accordance with the received signal and said signal is emitted from a signal emitter and is effective within a localised, determinable area (8) of said emitter location (2), thereby providing a localised controlling effect on the operation of said device.
2. A control system according to claim 1 characterised in that the signal emitted, when received by the device, causes a function or functions of the device to be altered and/or disabled.
3. A control system according to claim 1 characterised in that the device is provided with a signal receiving means for receiving a signal emitted using a communication system other than the communication system used for the normal operation of the device.
4. A control system according to claim 3 characterised in that the signal received by the signal receiving means activates a particular control sequence on the subsequent operation of the device irrespective of the normal communication system signals which may be received.
5. A control system according to claim 3 characterised in that the device is a mobile telephone using a cellular communication system for normal operation and the signal

receiving means receives a signal from a different communication system to allow the controlled operation of the mobile telephone if such a signal is received.

6. A control system according to claim 5 characterised in that the mobile communications device has a Bluetooth(RTM) signal receiving means for receiving a signal at said area 8 emitted from a Bluetooth signal emitter.

7. A control system according to claim 1 characterised in that a faraday cage is used to generate the signal.

8. A control system according to claim 1 characterised in that the signal emitted at said location (2) emits a single continuous signal throughout the defined area.

9. A control system according to claim 1 characterised in that the signal emitted at said location (2) is emitted at pre-determined time intervals.

10. A control system according to claim 2 characterised in that when the device receives a signal, the operation of the same changes for a pre-determined period of time and if a further signal is not received thereafter, the device returns to its original operating condition.

11. A control system according to claim 1 characterised in that the device is any of a mobile telephone, pager, electronic diary, electronic organiser or other form of wireless or cordless telecommunications apparatus.

12. A control system according to claim 1 characterised in that the device is a mobile telephone and the signal, when received

by the device, results in the ringing function of the telephone being disabled and/or switched to a different function.

13. A control system according to claim 1 characterised in that the device is a mobile telephone and the signal, when received causes the mobile phone to be disabled from receiving incoming calls and/or from transmitting outgoing calls.

14. A control system according to claim 1 characterised in that the device is provide with one predefined operating condition to which the device alters when it receives said signal.

15. A control system according to claim 14 characterised in that the device is provide with a number of different predefined operating conditions held in memory in the device and the selection of which of the operating conditions is selected is dependent upon the configuration of the signal received in any given area.

16. A control system according to claim 15 characterised in that the signal configuration can change to suit specific area requirements.

17. A control system according to claim 16 characterised in that the signal configuration changes in terms of the frequency of emission in different areas.